

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Chinese Communist Army dependents, for whom the government has some responsibility for providing subsistence, are divided into four categories. These are as follows: Dependents of soldiers killed, wounded, on active service and persons engaged in military production at arsenals. As of 1 August 1951, statistics of army dependents compiled by the Supply and Service Command of the Chinese Communist Army Headquarters show a total of 59,628,193 dependents in 12,482,354 families as well as 957,445 disabled veterans. There are more dependents in Shantung than in any other province. Shantung has 5,180,045 dependents in 1,224,917 families, and 128,955 disabled veterans.
2. The government distributed 389,610,000 catties of millet to 5,324,900 dependent families between July 1950 and June 1951. In addition, 1,584,430 families received assistance in cultivating their land during 1950, and 339,284 were recommended or employed by local governments and government enterprises.
3. A rough estimate of Chinese Communist military strength from these figures shows about 8,110,000 men in Field Armies, Navy, Air Force, special armed force units, military area and public security troops and militia on full time service.

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Comment: Informant stated that the estimate was made by deducting about 20 percent for persons engaged in military production and 15 percent for those in military training institutions, etc., before computing the armed strength.

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